RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF MAIDSTONE.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

Maidstone Rural Sanitary District

FOR THE YEAR

1909,

BY

JAMES SCOTT TEW, M.D., D.P.H.

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OF THE

Maidstone Rural Sanitary District

IN 1909.

AREA AND POPULATION.

No. of Regn. District.	Area in Statute Acres.		Inhabited Houses.			Population.		
	Land and Inland Water.	Inland Water only.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1881	1891.	1901.
50	34,996	214	3,181	3,275	3,378	15,492	15,907	15,570

SUB-REGISTRATION DISTRICTS.

	Population. 1891.	Population. 1901.
1. **Yalding**	**7277**	**7164**
Marden (1)	2350	2337
Nettlestead	514	611
Staplehurst	1818	1688
Yalding (2)	2595	2528
2. **Loose**	**8630**	**8406**
Bearsted	645	726
Boughton Monchelsea (3)	1117	1082
East Barming	677	744
East Farleigh	1611	1537
Hunton	934	821
Linton	990	912
Loose	1501	1509
Otham	361	335
Teston	329	286
West Barming	27	30
West Farleigh	438	424

(1) **Marden** includes Chainhurst, Marden Beech, Milebush, and Wanhurst Green.

(2) **Yalding** includes Benover, Collier Street, and Laddingford.

(3) **Boughton Monchelsea** includes Boughton Green.

The **Population** of the Maidstone Rural District, estimated to the middle of 1909, was 15,297, showing a decrease of 273 since the census of 1901, and of 33 on the estimated population of 1908.

The number of registered births amounted to 374, consisting of 192 males and 182 females, and giving a **Birth-rate** of 24·4 per 1,000 of population, as against 26·4 in 1908, and 23·3 in 1907.

The deaths registered numbered 246, including 131 of males and 115 of females. Of these, 80 occurred at the Union Workhouse, and of the total 246 deaths, 46 were those of non-residents, which are deducted, while one death in the Charing Cross Hospital of a person belonging to the District is added, giving a nett total of 201 deaths.

The **Death-rate** was 13·1 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 15·7 in the previous year, and 16·7 in 1907.

The general Death-rate (13·1) is the lowest I have ever had to record since I commenced to act for the District nearly 14 years ago, and is 1·2 below the average for the past 10 years.

The **Principal Epidemic diseases** include Small-pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping-cough, Fever (including the three principal forms of Typhus, Enteric (Typhoid), and Pyrexia of uncertain origin), and Diarrhœa.

Of the total 201 deaths, only 6 were caused by one or other of these diseases, viz., 3 by Whooping-cough, and 3 by Diarrhœa.

The **Epidemic Disease Death-rate** was 0·39 per 1,000 of population, as against 1·50 in the previous year, and 1·9 in 1907.

The **Infant Mortality,** *i.e.*, the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 registered births was 66, as compared with 96 in the preceding year, and 156 in 1907.

During the year 1909, the Birth-rate in **England and Wales,** taken as a whole, was 25·6 per 1,000 of the population, which is 0.9 per 1,000 below the rate in 1908, and lower than the rate in any other year on record.

The Death-rate in 1909 was 14·5 per 1,000, which was 0·2 per 1,000 below the rate in 1908, and lower than the rate in any other year on record.

The rate of mortality among infants under one year of age per 1,000 registered births was 109, which is 11 per 1,000 below the rate in 1908. The rate in 1909 was lower than in any other year on record.

The Epidemic Disease Death-rate was 1·12 per 1,000 living, against 1·77, 1·28, and 1·34 respectively in the three preceding years.

The vital statistics for **the District** show a considerable improvement on preceding years, and compare very favourably with those for the whole of England and Wales, the General Death-rate, the Epidemic Disease Death-rate, and the Infant mortality being respectively 1·4, 0·73, and 43 *below* the corresponding rates for the country generally.

	Death-rate.	Epidemic Disease Death-rate.	Infant Mortality.
England and Wales	14·5	1·12	109
Maidstone Rural	13·1	0·39	66
	1·4	0·73	43

The Birth-rate for the District is 2·0 below the rate for 1908, ·8 below the average for the past 10 years, and 1·2 below the rate for England and Wales for the year 1909.

A.—NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Under the provisions of the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Acts, 1889 and 1899, the following diseases are compulsorily notifiable in the district, viz., Small-pox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, the disease known as Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever, and the Fevers known by any of the following names: Typhus Typhoid or Enteric, Relapsing, Continued and Puerperal.

During the year 1909 forty-five cases of infectious disease were notified as against 100 in the previous year. They included 22 cases of Scarlet Fever, 15 of Diphtheria, 6 of Erysipelas, and 2 of Enteric Fever.

Scarlet Fever.—Twenty-two non-fatal cases were reported as compared with 66 cases and no deaths in 1908. They were notified as follows:—

January	4 cases.
February	4 ,,
April	7 ,,
May	1 case.
August	1 ,,
September	4 cases.
November	1 case.
Total	22 cases.

The cases were distributed through the Parishes of the Rural District as follows:—

Bearsted	7 cases.
Hunton	4 ,,
Loose	4 ,,
Yalding	3 ,,
West Farleigh	1 case.
Barming	1 ,,
Boughton Monchelsea	1 ,,
Marden	1 ,,
Total	22 cases.

The age periods at which the cases occurred were:—

Under 1 Year.	1—5 Years.	5—15 Years.	15—25 Years.	25—65 Years.	65 and upwards.	
0	7	11	3	1	0	= 22 cases.

Nineteen of the patients (equal to 86 %) were treated at the Isolation Hospital.

Diphtheria.—Fifteen non-fatal cases of this disease occurred, as against 19 cases with 3 deaths in 1908. They were notified:—

January	1 case.
February	1 ,,
March	1 ,,
April	3 cases.
May	3 ,,
June	1 case.
July	2 cases.
August	1 case.
September	1 ,,
December	1 ,,
Total	15 cases.

The cases were distributed over the District as follows:—

Loose	6 cases.
Linton	3 ,,
Marden	3 ,,
Yalding	1 case.
East Farleigh	1 ,,
Bearsted	1 ,,
Total	15 cases.

The following show the age-periods at which the cases occurred:—

Under 1 Year.	1—5 Years.	5—15 Years.	15—25 Years.	25—65 Years.	55 and upwards.	
0	4	6	2	3	0	= 15 cases.

Eleven of the cases, corresponding to a rate of 73 %, were treated at the Isolation Hospital.

Erysipelas.—Six non-fatal cases were reported as against 10 in the previous year, and were notified as follows:—2 in February (1 at East Farleigh and 1 at Loose); 2 in July (1 at East Farleigh and 1 at Staplehurst); 1 in November at Yalding; and 1 in December at

Barming. Five of the patients were adults of between 30 and 71 years of age, and the other a young man aged 18.

Puerperal Fever.—It is satisfactory to be able to record that not a single case of this disease has been notified during the year. There were 2 cases (1 fatal) in 1908.

Enteric Fever.—Two non-fatal cases were notified as against 3 cases and 1 death in the previous year.

The first case, that of an adult female aged 27, was notified in January from the Maidstone General Hospital, having been removed to that Institution from Farleigh Hill, East Farleigh, suffering from another complaint. She, however, a short time after being admitted, developed typhoid fever, and as the disease was, without reasonable doubt, contracted in this District, has been treated as a case belonging to it.

The second case was notified from Staplehurst in May. The patient, a girl aged 15 years, had come to the District 5 or 6 weeks previously from Eastbourne, and though full inquiries were made with regard to drainage, water, food supply, &c., the actual cause was not ascertainable.

Tuberculosis, in all its forms, caused 24 deaths during the year, as compared with 21 in 1908. Of these 24 deaths, 20 were certified as due to Phthisis (consumption of the lungs), as against 19 in 1908. The death-rate from all forms of the disease was 1·56 and the Phthisis death-rate 1·30 per 1,000 of population.

The death-rate in the District from all forms of the disease in 1908 was 1·36, and the Phthisis death-rate 1·23 per 1,000 of population, as compared with rates of 1·58 and 1·11 for England and Wales in that year. The comparative rates for 1909 for the country generally are not yet available.

Phthisis is *voluntarily* notifiable in the District, and 11 cases were notified under this system of notification as follows;—1 in

January at Marden, 1 in March at Yalding, 1 in April at Barming, 1 in May at East Farleigh, 4 in June (2 at Marden, 1 at Bearsted, and 1 at Otham), 1 in July at Loose, 1 in August at Loose, and 1 in December at Yalding.

The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1909, provide for the *compulsory* notification by Medical Officers of Poor Law Institutions, and by District Poor Law Medical Officers to the Medical Officers of Health acting for Sanitary Districts of all cases of Phthisis occurring among inmates of Poor Law Institutions, and also among poor persons in receipt of parish relief in private houses, also the notification by Superintending Officers of Poor Law Institutions to Medical Officers of Health of the District of any person leaving an Institution who has been notified as suffering from Phthisis.

Thirteen notifications were received by me during the year, viz. :—7 cases of poor persons residing in private houses, 4 of persons in the Union Workhouse, and 2 of persons leaving the Union Infirmary, Holborn, to take up their residence in this District.

In addition to the card system, mentioned in my last report, I have now procured a Register, which is suitable and useful in keeping records of the cases.

Your Council, on my recommendation, procured a supply of each of the following leaflets and posters for distribution :—

(*a*) A card—"Hints for Prevention."
(*b*) A leaflet of "Facts and Suggestions."
(*c*) An illustrated poster regarding consumption (used by permission of the New York State Department of Health).
(*d*) The same as an illustrated card.
(*e*) The same as an illustrated sheet.

These should be extremely useful in bringing home to a patient the precautions which should be observed in order to prevent the infection of other members of the family, and also in illustrating to healthy persons those conditions which tend to cause the disease, and how to avoid or arrest its progress.

Disinfection of the premises or rooms occupied by patients has in all cases been carried out after death, and, if necessary, when notification of a case has been received. In all cases the above leaflets have been distributed.

Hospital Isolation. Thirty cases of infectious disease were treated at the Isolation Hospital, Coxheath, and were admitted as follows :—

January	...	3	cases	(2 Scarlet Fever, 1 Diphtheria)
February	...	3	„	(Scarlet Fever)
March	...	—		
April	...	9	„	(7 Scarlet Fever, 2 Diphtheria)
May	...	4	„	(1 Scarlet Fever, 3 Diphtheria)
June	...	1	case	(Diphtheria)
July	...	2	cases	(Diphtheria)
August	...	1	case	(Scarlet Fever)
September	...	5	cases	(4 Scarlet Fever, 1 Diphtheria)
October	...	—		
November	...	1	case	(Scarlet Fever)
December	...	1	„	(Diphtheria)
Total	...	30	cases	(19 Scarlet Fever, 11 Diphtheria)

No deaths occured at the Isolation Hospital.

As regards hospital isolation, I reported last year that the existing accommodation was quite inadequate to cope with the number of cases of infectious disease arising, and that it was imperative, in the interests of all concerned, that either proper accommodation should be provided, or that the isolation of home-dwellers should be abandoned, and the existing huts used, as in former years, only during the hop-picking season.

One of the principal difficulties was got over by the help of Colonel Cornwallis, of Linton Park, who sold the existing site of 8¾ acres to the Council for the moderate sum of £300.

The Hospital Committee and the members of the Council, having decided that further provision should be made, spared no pains in ascertaining how the best value could be got for the outlay, and inspected numerous isolation hospitals of a type similar to what was proposed; they also had numerous meetings and interviews at the Local Government Board.

Plans were prepared by Mr. A. W. Smith (of Messrs. Ruck and Smith, Architects, Maidstone), and it was decided that one ward of a special type for 6 patients (each to have 2,000 cubic feet of available air space), with an administrative block and all the other necessary buildings and adjuncts, should first be erected. Accordingly an Inquiry was held by R. Deane Sweeting, Esq., M.D., Barrister-at-Law, at the Board Room, Union Workhouse, Coxheath, Linton, on October 27th, 1909, into an application to the Local Government Board to borrow £4,465 for the erection of the Hospital.

The estimated cost was apportioned as follows:—

Administrative Block	£900
Laundry, with fittings	500
Ward Block................................	1700
Disinfecting Chamber and Disinfectant	175
Water and Gas	240
Fence and Drainage	350
Architect's Fees and Furnishing	600
	£4465

Leave to obtain this loan was granted, and at the end of the year a commencement in getting out the foundations had been made.

It might appear from the above, or by an estimation of cost per bed, that the total expenditure is out of proportion to the accommodation for patients, but it must be remembered that the administrative block and other adjuncts will serve for future increase in wards, and further, that some of the existing accommodation can be made use of for patients. All these matters have been carefully gone into by the Council.

The site of the Hospital is high and healthy, water and gas are available from the Maidstone Companies, and drainage is to be dealt with by the modern process of tanks and filter beds.

I should mention that before final arrangements were made, both the Borough Council of Maidstone and the neighbouring Rural District Council of Cranbrook were approached with a view of some kind of co-operation for the treatment of infectious cases being entered into, but neither of these Councils were willing to combine, hence the erection of a separate hospital was the only course.

B.—NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Whooping Cough was responsible for 3 deaths, 1 in November and 2 in December. All 3 deaths occurred at Yalding, and were infants under 5 months of age.

Influenza caused 4 deaths, 2 in April (1 at Bearsted and 1 at Marden), 1 in May at Yalding, and 1 in June at Bearsted. The ages of the patients varied from 39 to 73 years.

Diarrhœa caused 3 deaths, 1 in April at Yalding, 1 in August at Yalding, and 1 at West Farleigh in September. Two of the patients were infants, and the other an adult.

Measles.—No deaths resulted from this disease.

INSPECTIONS.

My inspections during the year have been connected with the following matters, viz.:—drainage of houses at Marden; Tovil-hill drainage; pond at Loose; Staplehurst drainage; well at Collier Street, Yalding; various cowsheds and milkshops; paper mill at Loose; pond at Staplehurst; hop-pickers huts in various parts of the District; an examination of the whole course of Bearsted drainage; insanitary dwelling at Nettlestead; various visits to isolation hospitals outside the District, with members of the Hospital Committee, in addition to the usual visits necessary in some of the cases of infectious disease, and on other general matters.

There are no **Common Lodging Houses** in the District.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Model Regulations were adopted by the Council on March 28th, and came into force on June 1st, 1907. During the year the register has been further brought up to date of persons requiring to be registered, and the entries at the end of the year were as follows:—

	Purveyors.	Dairymen.	Cowkeepers.	Cowkeepers and Purveyors.	Totals.
Barming	—	—	—	—	—
Bearsted	—	1	—	—	1
Boughton Monchelsea	1	—	—	1	2
East Farleigh	1	—	3	—	4
West Farleigh	—	—	1	—	1
Hunton	—	—	—	—	—
Linton	—	—	2	—	2
Loose	—	—	3	2	5
Marden	—	2	3	—	5
Nettlestead	—	1	1	—	2
Otham	—	—	—	—	—
Staplehurst	—	2	3	—	5
Teston	—	—	1	—	1
Yalding	—	2	—	—	2
Totals	2	8	17	3	30

Of these 30 premises, structural alterations were required in 23 to bring them into compliance with the Regulations. The Sanitary Inspector has had a large amount of work in respect to the Dairies and Cowsheds, and I have visited several myself. The results have, on the whole, been satisfactory, as when the defects have been pointed out and details suggested for their remedy, the work has been carried out without undue delay.

Some keep their cows in sheds which are permanently open at the back, and this is a method which, for many reasons, I think should be favoured. The cows are more hardy, the ventilation is thoroughly efficient, for they are practically in the open air, and the building expense much reduced; good mangers, a good floor and efficient drainage being nearly all that is required. Such partially open buildings must necessarily be of sufficient length from manger to rear to prevent rain driving far in, and if new buildings are put up the aspect, especially with regard to the prevailing wind, should be considered.

Nearly all the cows kept in this District come under Part I. of the Local Goverment Board's Model Regulations, viz., "are habitually grazed on grass land during the greater part of the year, and when not so grazed, are habitually turned out during a portion of each day."

As a matter of fact the cows are out all their time from about April to November, except when they come up to be milked.

There is little doubt but that a hot cowshed increases the milk of most cows, but this heat is obtained at the cost of the ventilation, with a greater chance of favouring or disseminating tuberculosis, and makes the cows less hardy. A bad result may follow the moving of cows accustomed to a warm, closed-in shed to a partially walled shed; but it would appear that cows which have been out of doors all summer and until the late autumn, and then brought into and housed during the winter in such sheds, do well, and give almost or quite as much milk as if kept in a more closed up place.

In cases where an open back is adopted I have suggested large half channel pipe or cemented mangers; a standing of a clear 6 ft from the front of the manger to a manure gutter about 9 in. — 12 in. wide, and about 3 in. deep, but deeper on one side than the other, which helps the flow of liquid manure. This channel passes through the side wall and discharges over a trapped gully. If the side walls and roof extend backwards for some 5 or 6 feet beyond the manure channel and the end of the roof and guttering at the back is not more than 6 ft. 6 in. to 7 ft. high, protection is afforded against even driving rain.

Lighting and further ventilation, if necessary, can then be of the simplest character. The former can be a fixed window or windows at the manger end; and the ventilation be simply bricks cut out to the required size and sheets of perforated zinc nailed over, one sheet onthe inside surface of the wall and one on the outer surface. Such ventilation breaks up the direct currents of air from without and prevents draught, and there is no crevice from the cowmen to block up.

As regards floors, the 3 feet next to the manger should be of rammed chalk, "hassock," or something of that kind, not too smooth, so that the cow can get a foot-hold when getting up, while the back part must be of an impervious material. I believe that nothing is so good as roughened blue bricks laid in cement, but it is dear in this part of the country, and cemented floors have generally to be resorted to.

I have dwelt on this matter in some detail, but the matter is important, and I am constantly finding instances where considerable sums have been spent in building and alteration of existing buildings, when less might have been spent with more efficiency.

Slaughterhouses.—At the present time slaughterhouses are neither licensed nor registered, which is not satisfactory, as it helps to make the slaughtering of tuberculous and other diseased cattle more easy of accomplishment.

I can only repeat the recommendation made last year, viz., that the Model Bye-Laws with respect to slaughterhouses be adopted, printed, and a copy sent to each butcher in the District, together with a copy of the Local Government Board's Circular with regard to the humane slaughtering of animals.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

The necessary work required to be done with regard to the administration of the provisions of this Act has been carefully carried out by Mr. Busbridge, who has during the year, to a large extent, revised the Register.

We considered, on going through the list, that a number of persons were on the Register unnecessarily, and this was further confirmed on consultation with the District Inspector of Factories.

The list now stands as follows :—

Parish.	Factories.	Workshops and Workplaces.	Total.
Barming	—	3	3
Bearsted	1	10	11
Boughton Monchelsea	—	10	10
East Farleigh	—	5	5
West Farleigh	1	2	3
Hunton	—	2	2
Linton	—	5	5
Loose	4	5	9
Marden	—	23	23
Nettlestead	2	4	6
Otham	—	2	2
Staplehurst	1	15	16
Teston	1	—	1
Yalding	2	22	24
Totals	12	108	120

The premises have generally been found to be in a satisfactory condition, and the conditions under which the employees work are, on the whole, good.

Any defects found in the premises were remedied on request, and in no case has it been necessary to resort to legal proceedings.

Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, is not in force in this District.

Drainage.—The drainage of Bearsted and Staplehurst still remains in the present unsatisfactory condition as reported last year.

Water Supply.—The Manager of the Mid Kent Water Company has again from time to time during the year kindly supplied me with copies of chemical analyses of samples of water taken from the Company's supply in the months of March, April, May, June, October, November and December. The figures have in each case proved to be uniformly satisfactory, and the following is a copy of the December analysis as made by the Company's Analyst, Mr. Cecil H. Cribb, B. Sc. (Lond.), F.J.C., F.C.S., Public Analyst to the City of Westminster and the Metropolitan Borough of Fulham.

		Parts per 100,000.	
Ammonia, Free		·0004	
,, Albuminoid		·0004	
Oxygen, absorbed in 15 minutes		none	
,, ,, 4 hours		·003	
Total Solid Residue		23·88	
Chlorine		1·90	
Nitrogen, as Nitrates and Nitrites		trace	
Temporary Hardness	11·3	In degrees	7·91
Permanent Hardness	5·6	,,	3·92
Total Hardness	16·9	,,	11·83

Remarks.—The sample was clear, palatable, and free from poisonous metals, and the usual high standard of organic purity is fully maintained.

During the year good progress has been made in connecting premises previously without a reliable water supply with the mains of the water companies.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLOSURES.

I recommended the closure of the following Schools for the periods and on account of the infectious disease set opposite :—

Bearsted Church of England School (No. 23)	April 19th to April 30th, Scarlet Fever.
	May 3rd to May 7th, ,,
Yalding Laddingford School (No. 434)	Dec. 8th to Dec. 23rd, Whooping-cough

In October a Memorandum was issued, jointly in the names of the Chief Medical Officers of the Local Government Board and the Board of Education, to Medical Officers of Health and School Medical Officers, upon Public Health Administration for the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases among children attending Public

Elementary Schools, with special reference to the circumstances in which the closure of the schools, or the exclusion of individual scholars, may be necessary.

This important Memorandum is an enlarged and revised edition of a similar one issued by the Local Government Board in January, 1908, and is divided into three parts. Part 1 deals with the code requirements for school closure and exclusion of scholars, and the co-ordination of work of the Medical Officer of Health, of the School Medical Officer, and of other School Officers. Part 2 recommends principles of action on the occurrence of infectious diseases at elementary schools; and Part 3 gives rules for action in respect of particular diseases and rules of official procedure.

It is evidently desirable that working arrangements should be satisfactorily established between the Public Health and the School Authorities if the best results are to be obtained in prevention of the spread of infectious disease in the schools themselves and in the scholars' houses.

Hop-picking.—Although the month of September was very wet and the conditions under which the pickers worked were much worse than usual, there was not as much disease as might have been expected, even of the nature of colds and chest complaints.

The infectious disease was extremely small, and out of the 35,000 pickers estimated to come into the district, only 3 cases of Scarlet Fever (from Hunton), and 1 case of Diphtheria (from Yalding), were notified. These were all removed to the Isolation Hospital and made good recoveries.

Mr. A. Brooks was appointed to assist Mr. Busbridge in making inspections during the picking, and his duties were carried out in a very satisfactory manner.

A considerable number of minor infringements of the Council's Bye-laws came to light, and during the present depression growers are, in many cases, very loth to spend money on sanitary improvements from which they derive no direct benefit, but notwithstanding this, considerable improvements were effected.

The Sanitary Inspector served 35 notices under the Bye-laws, and found that the greatest difficulties with which he had to contend were the absence of proper water supplies and of adequate sanitary conveniences.

One coster's barrow of fish was found to be unwholesome and was destroyed, and one butcher was cautioned as to the quality of his meat. The number of inspections carried out were as follows :—

Number of blocks of Hopper-houses	inspected	555
,, Hopper-houses	,,	3480
,, Tents	,,	454
,, House-carts	,,	168
,, Privies	,,	199
,, Cook-houses	,,	301
,, Coster carts (bringing food)	,,	90
,, Stalls of fish and meat	,,	130
,, Re-visits to Hopper-houses		41
		5418

ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BYE-LAWS.

The consideration of the adoption of the part of the Public Health Act Amendment Acts of 1890 and 1907, applicable to Rural Districts, and of the adoption of the Local Government Board Model Bye-laws for Rural Districts, was under the consideration of the Council at the end of the year.

No **Legal Proceedings** have been required to be taken during the year with regard to any matters connected with the public health.

The health of the District at the end of the year was very satisfactory, there having been only two cases of infectious disease notified during the last three months of the year.

The statistical Tables required by the Local Government Board, and the Table provided by the Secretary of State for recording action taken under the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, are appended.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES SCOTT TEW.

March 14th, 1910.

Table 1.—Vital Statistics of whole District during 1909 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents register'd in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Resid'nts register'd in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.						
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births Registd.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
1899	16260	431	25·3	59	118	305	18·7	80	76	—	229	14·0
1900	16301	386	23·6	41	106	299	18·3	79	58	—	241	14·7
1901	15570	442	28·4	41	92	265	17·0	69	66	—	199	12·7
1902	15530	358	23·0	48	131	277	17·8	88	60	—	217	13·9
1903	15496	400	25·8	57	142	266	17·1	75	46	—	220	14·1
1904	15462	367	23·7	41	111	257	16·6	72	52	—	205	13·2
1905	15429	417	27·02	46	110	284	18·4	78	51	—	232	15·0
1906	15396	401	26·0	46	114	263	17·0	90	59	—	204	13·2
1907	15363	358	23·3	56	156	313	20·3	80	56	—	257	16·7
1908	15330	405	26·4	39	96	300	19·5	88	58	—	242	15·7
Averages for years 1899-1908.	15613	396	25·2	47	117	282	18·0	79	58	—	224	14·3
1909.	15297	374	24·4	25	66	246	16·0	80	46	1	201	13·1

* Rates in Columns 4 and 8 should he calculated per 1,000 of the estimated gross population. In districts in which large public institutions seriously affect the statistics, the rates in column 13 may be calculated on a nett population, obtained by deducting from the estimated gross population the average number of inmates not belonging to the district in such institutions.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public institutions" to be taken into account for the purpose of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

At census of 1901:—Total population of all ages, 15,570; Number of inhabited houses, 3,378; Average number of persons per house 4.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 33,782.

I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Maidstone Union (in Sub-Registration District of Loose).	Charing Cross Hospital, London.	

Is the Union Workhouse within the District?—Yes.

Table 2.—Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1909 and previous years.

Names of Localities.	1. Maidstone Rural (Whole District.)				2. Loose Sub-Registration District.				3. Yalding Sub-Registration District.			
Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
	a.	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*	*a.*	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*	*a.*	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*
1900	16301	386	241	41	8852	201	126	14	7449	185	115	27
1901	15570	442	199	41	8406	302	129	25	7164	140	70	16
1902	15530	358	217	48	8380	188	124	23	7150	170	93	24
1903	15496	400	220	57	8357	194	114	22	7139	206	106	35
1904	15462	367	205	41	8335	204	105	15	7127	163	100	26
1905	15429	417	232	46	8314	224	106	22	7115	193	126	24
1906	15396	401	204	46	8290	225	116	29	7106	176	88	17
1907	15363	358	257	56	8269	210	139	31	7094	148	118	25
1908	15330	405	242	39	8247	216	118	22	7083	189	124	20
Average of Years 1900 to 1908.	15542	392	224	46	8383	218	119	22	7158	174	104	23
1909	15297	374	201	25	8225	195	111	10	7072	179	90	15

NOTES.—(*a*) The separate localities adopted for this table should be areas of which the populations are obtainable from the census returns, such as wards, parishes or groups of parishes, or registration sub-districts. Block 1 may, if desired, be used for the whole district ; and blocks 2, 3, &c., for the several localities. In small districts without recognised divisions of known population this table need not be filled up,

(*b*) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are to be included in sub-columns *c* of this table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded. (See note on Table I. as to meaning of terms "resident" and "non-resident."

(*c*) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.

(*d*) Care should be taken that the gross totals of the several columns in this table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV. ; thus, the totals of sub-columns *a*, *b* and *c* should agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3, and 12 respectively of Table I. ; the gross total of the sub-columns *c* should agree with the total of column 2 in Table IV., and the gross total of sub-columns *d* with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

Table 3.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1909.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality.				***No of Cases Removed to Hospital from each Locality.				
	At all Ages.	At Ages†—Years.						H W Loose.	Yalding.			H W Loose.	Yalding.			‡ Total Cases Removed to Hospital.
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.									
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—	—			—
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—	—			—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	15	—	4	6	2	3	—	11	4			9	2			11
Erysipelas	6	—	—	—	1	4	1	4	2			—	—			—
Scarlet Fever	22	—	7	11	3	1	—	18	4			15	4			19
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—	—			—
Enteric Fever	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1			—	—			—
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—	—			—
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—	—			—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—	—			—
Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—	—			—
*Phthisis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—	—			—
Poor Law cases	13	—	—	2	3	5	3	6	7			—	—			—
Voluntary	11	—	1	2	1	7	—	6	5			—	—			—
Totals	69	—	12	21	11	21	4	46	23			24	6			30

NOTES.—The localities adopted for this table should be the same as those in Tables II. and IV.

State in space below the name of the isolation hospital, if any, to which residents in the district, suffering from infectious disease, are usually sent. Mark (H) the locality in which it is situated, or if not within the district, state where it is situated, and in what district. The name of the Authority by whom the hospital is provided should also be given. Mark (W) the locality in which a workhouse is situated.

* This space may be used for record of other disease the notification (compulsory or voluntary) of which is in force in the district.

† These age columns for notifications should be filled up in all cases where the Medical Officer of Health, by inquiry or otherwise, has obtained the necessary information.

*** Column ‡ should be filled up with the totals of cases removed to hospital, whether the district is divided into separate localities is treated as one undivided area.

Isolation Hospital, Coxheath Loose; available beds, 12; number of diseases that can be concurrently treated, 2.

Schedule B.—Causes of, and ages at, Death during the Year, 1909.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in or belonging to the whole District at subjoined ages.							Death in localities (Sub-registration District) at all ages.		Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non-Residents in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—65	65 and upwards.	Loose.	Yalding.	
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epidemic Influenza	4	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	2	—
Whooping-cough	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Diphtheria, Membranous Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asiatic Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhœa, Dysentery	3	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	2	—
Epidemic or Zymotic Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other Continued Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Septic Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Intermittent Fever & Malarial Cachexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Meninges	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Lungs	20	—	1	—	3	12	4	9	11	6
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	4	1	1	—	1	1	—	2	2	2
Alcholism	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer	7	—	—	1	—	3	3	4	3	5
Premature Birth	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Developmental Diseases	7	6	1	—	—	—	—	4	3	—
Old age	21	—	—	—	—	—	21	8	13	20
Meningitis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Inflammation and Softening of Brain	5	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	1	6
Organic Diseases of Heart	16	—	—	1	—	8	7	13	3	3
Acute Bronchitis	5	3	—	—	—	1	1	1	4	—
Chronic Bronchitis	16	—	—	—	—	2	14	9	7	4
Lobar (Croupous) Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lobular (Broncho) Pneumonia	5	2	1	—	—	—	2	3	2	—
Diseases of Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Obstruction of Intestines	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	4
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	9	—	—	—	1	4	4	4	5	2
Tumours and other affections of Female Genital Organs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accidents and Diseases of Parturition	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	1	—
Deaths by Accident of Negligence	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—
Deaths by Suicide	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	3		—
Death from Ill-defined Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other Causes	61	7	—	1	2	14	37	37	24	28
All Causes	201	25	6	4	9	56	101	111	90	80

Table 5.—Infantile Mortality during the year 1909. Deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under one year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes	Certified	4	2	—	1	7	1	3	—	5	2	2	1	2	1	—	1	25
	Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Infectious Diseases	Small-pox																	
	Chicken-pox																	
	Measles																	
	Scarlet Fever																	
	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)																	
	Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Diarrhœal Diseases	Diarhœa, all forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Wasting Disease	Premature Birth	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	Congenital Defects	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
	Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Want of Breast-milk, Starvation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculous Diseases	Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica																	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Erysipelas																		
Syphilis																		
Rickets																		
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																		
Convulsions		1	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	6
Bronchitis		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
Laryngitis		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
Suffocation, overlying		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Causes		1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
		4	2	—	1	7	1	3	—	5	2	2	1	2	1	—	1	25

Births in the Year:—Legitimate, 350; Illegitimate, 24 Deaths in the Year:—Legitimate Infants, 22; Illegitimate Infants, 3.
Population estimated to middle of 1909: 15,297. Deaths from all causes at all ages, 201

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

1. INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Number of Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries).	12	—	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	92	2	—
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in part 3 of this Report.)	16	—	—
Total	120	2	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects. Found.	Number of Defects. Remedied.	Number of Defects. Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions.
Nuisances under the Public Health Act:*				
Want of Cleanliness				
Want of Ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors	1	1		
Other Nuisances				
†Sanitary Accommodation. Insufficient	1	1		
†Sanitary Accommodation. Unsuitable or Defective				
†Sanitary Accommodation. Not Separate for Sexes				
Offences Under the Factory and Workshop Act:—				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouse (s. 101)				
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)				
Other Offences (Excluding Offences relating to Outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)				
Total	2	2		

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* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory and Workshop Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

† For districts not in London, state here whether section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, has been adopted by the District Council; and if so what standard of sufficiency and suitability of sanitary accommodation for persons employed in factories and workshops has been enforced.

3. HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.*	Outworkers' Lists, Section, 107.											Inspection of Outworkers' premises.	Outwork in unwholesome premises sec. 198.			Outwork in Infected premises, secs. 109, 110.		
	Lists received from Employers.						Addresses of Outworkers §		Notices served on Occupiers as to Keeping or Sending Lists.	Prosecutions.			Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.	Instances.	Orders made (s. 110).	Prosecutions (secs. 109, 110).
	Twice in the Year.			Once in the Year.			Received from other Councils.	Forwarded to other Councils.		Failing to keep or permit Inspection of lists.	Failing to send lists.							
	Lists.†	Out-workers.†		Lists.	Out-workers.													
		Contractors.	Workmen.		Contractors.	Workmen.												
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
Wearing Apparel—																		
(1) Making, &c.																		
(2) Cleaning and Washing																		
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets																		
Artificial Flowers																		
Nets other than Wire Nets																		
Tents																		
Sacks																		
Furniture and Upholstery																		
Fur Pulling																		
Feather Sorting																		
Umbrellas, &c.																		
Carding, &c., of Buttons, &c.																		
Paper Bags and Boxes																		
Basket Making					There are no outworkers in this district.													
Brush Making																		
Racquet and Tennis Balls																		
Stuffed Toys																		
File Making																		
Electro-plate																		
Cables and Chains																		
Anchors and Grapnels																		
Cart Gear																		
Locks Latches and Keys																		
Pea Picking																		
Total																		

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[*] If an occupier gives out work of more than one of the classes specified in column 1, and subdivides his list in such a way as to show the number of workers in each class of work, the list should be included among those in column 2 (or 5 as the case may be) against the principal class *only*, but the outworkers should be assigned in columns 3 and 4 (or 6 and 7) into their respective classes. A footnote should be added to show that this has been done.

[†] The figures required in columns 2, 3 and 4 are the *total* number of the lists received from those employers who comply strictly with the statutory duty of sending *two* lists each year and of the entries of names of outworkers in those lists. The entries in column 2 must necessarily be *even* numbers, as there will be two lists for each employer—in some previous returns odd numbers have been inserted. The figures in columns 3 and 4 will usually be (approximately) double of the numbers of individual outworkers whose names are given, since in the February and August lists of the same employer the same outworker's name will often be repeated.

[§] In view of the wide discrepancies found to exist between the totals in the two columns when the returns are added together, it is desired that care may be taken to give exact figures. Only those addresses should be counted which have actually been received from or forwarded to other Councils during the year covered by the report.

4. REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year. (1)		Number. (2)
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses may be enumerated here	Factories	12
	Workshops & Workplaces	108
Total Number of Workshops on Register ...		120

5. OTHER MATTERS.

Class. (1)		Number. (2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—		
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)		
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)..	Notified by H.M. Inspector	
	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector..	
Other		
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—		
Certificates granted during the year		
In use at the end of the year		

NOTE.—The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 (s. 132), requires the Medical Officer of Health in his Annual Report to the District Council to report specifically on the administration of that Act in workshops and workplaces, and to send a copy of his Annual Report, or so much of it as deals with this subject, to the Secretary of State (Home Office). If the Annual Report is presented otherwise than in print, it is unnecessary to include in the copy sent to the Home Office the portions which do not relate to factories, workshops, laundries, workplaces, or homework. The duties of Local Authorities and the Medical Officer of Health under the Act of 1901 are detailed in the Home Office Memorandum of December, 1904. A further Memorandum, on the Home Work Provisions of the Factory Act, was issued to all District Councils and Medical Officers of Health in October, 1906.